

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4178
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
National Biodiversity Congress
Mahendran Shri C.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a conference of the National Biodiversity Congress (NBC) has been held recently and if so, the details of issues discussed and outcome of the said Conference;
- (b) whether the conference aims to identify practical, evidence-based case studies at the regional level to support the plan of action and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of participants in the said Conference;
- (d) whether the Government has ensured the participation of academic and research institutions, civil society, biodiversity management committees, NGOs, farmers, students and corporate in the event; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) Yes, Sir. A conference on "Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Sustainable Development" was held as part of the National Biodiversity Congress on 23 - 24th February 2017 at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The issues discussed in the conference included: mainstreaming biodiversity for nutritional security and well being, sustainable utilization and benefit sharing, landscape approaches to biodiversity conservation, empowering Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), conservation of indigenous breeds and varieties, Peoples Biodiversity Registers, control of invasive species etc. The major outcomes were prioritizing the major threats to biodiversity, and mainstreaming biodiversity for nutritional security and well being. The conference has brought out about 40 recommendations.

(b) An open forum conducted on 22nd February 2017 during the National Biodiversity Congress discussed about local actions being taken for conservation of biodiversity, wherein several practical regional efforts for biodiversity conservation were identified.

(c) (d) & (e) The National Biodiversity Congress 2017 was attended by about 230 BMC members from Kerala, 30 Technical Support Group members, 100 farmers and NGOs. Around 118 institutes participated in the biodiversity exhibition, which included eight Central research institutes, 24 State research institutes, 12 NGOs and 25 individuals. The 9th Children's Biodiversity Congress held on 25th February 2017 was attended by 100 students from Government and Government aided schools. The conference was attended by 253 delegates, including officials from seven State Biodiversity Boards and the National Biodiversity Authority, and students. The participation of delegates was supported through funds from National Biodiversity Authority.
